

February 11, 2010

RE: CSC Ag Pavilion Equipment funding

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this brief letter is to thank you for your consideration for Chadron State College and their current request for additional funding for lab equipment and livestock handling equipment. As a 2000 CSC range program graduate, I understand the importance of keeping facilities and teaching aids very current in this ever changing agricultural sector. As we look to the future, we know that the population will continue to increase and an ever declining population in direct ag production will be asked to feed and clothe not only the United States but also the world. For this to happen and for us to continue to enjoy the safest most abundant food supply in the world our colleges and universities need to strive to stay abreast of technology as it changes and help to prepare our next generation of producers.

I believe that all of Western Nebraska was quite excited when CSC unveiled their plans for the new Ag Complex. This addition to our facilities not only helps CSC stay at the top of colleges competing for bright young minds but should also better prepare CSC graduates for their careers in agriculture. To have a facility which will further allow hands on study will be a huge asset and further increase the quality of education at CSC.

I graduated in 2000 with two Range Management degrees and a Business Administration degree. I have been able to quickly move up in the lending field thanks to the education I received at Chadron State College. CSC does a wonderful job of using some balance in their education philosophy. To come out of college as a rounded individual is something which I believe all employers are looking for. CSC has prepared me for my career as an Ag Lender in many ways. CSC helped to develop problem solving skills and more of an analytical approach. They increased my understanding of animal production practices and cost effective ways to manage livestock. The balance of business and production classes is quite valuable and presents a graduate more prepared for the real world. It allows me to present my customers an unbiased opinion on ways they can increase profitability or find ways to cut expenses. I would not have had that ability without CSC and their education. They have been a great network which I still call on from time to time. Something which I can't stress enough is the efforts at CSC to take the knowledge from classroom study and help apply it to life and careers beyond their doors.

CSC does provide a world class education but currently starts at a disadvantage. There are other colleges in the area which have superior facilities and equipment. It is easier for them to provide the same education. With the complex in place and supplied with suitable equipment CSC can continue to provide the quality education we need our young people to have if they are expected to be competitive in the current agricultural field.

Thank you for your consideration,

/s/ David D. Russell VP

David D. Russell

Vice President – Ag Lending

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